



Journal

of the United Nations

Friday, 21 November 2008

Programme of meetings and agenda

Official meetings

Friday, 21 November 2008

General Assembly

Sixty-third session

Informal consultations on agenda item 70 (a) (Oceans and the law of the sea)

10 a.m.–1 p.m.	Informal consultations (closed)	Conference Room 3
3–6 p.m.	Informal consultations (closed)	Conference Room 3

General Assembly

Sixty-third session

Drafting sessions on the draft outcome document for the Follow-up International Conference on Financing for Development to Review the Implementation of the Monterrey Consensus (Doha, Qatar, 29 November–2 December 2008)

Drafting sessions on the draft outcome document of the Follow-up International Conference on Financing for Development to Review the Implementation of the Monterrey Consensus will be held *today*, 21 November 2008, from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. and from 3 to 6 p.m. in Conference Room 6.

The sessions will be co-chaired by the Co-Facilitators, H.E. Mr. Maged A. Abdelaziz (Egypt) and H.E. Mr. Johan L. Løvald (Norway).

The compilations and Facilitators' proposals are available on the Web site of the Financing for Development Office. For further information, including background materials, please consult that site <<http://www.un.org/esa/ffd/>>.

The announcement concerning the Conference and its proposed organization of work appears on page 15.



General Assembly

Sixty-third session

Informal consultations on draft proposals under agenda item 65 (Strengthening of the coordination of humanitarian and disaster relief assistance of the United Nations, including special economic assistance) and its sub-items (a) to (c), chaired by H.E. Ms. Sylvie Lucas (Luxembourg), will be held *today*, 21 November 2008, at 10 a.m. in Conference Room 2. All interested delegations are invited to attend.

General Assembly

Sixty-third session

There will be a briefing for delegations on the capital master plan (CMP) by Ms. Angela Kane, Under-Secretary-General of the Department of Management, on Tuesday, 25 November 2008, at 10.30 a.m. in Conference Room 3. The meeting will be chaired by Mr. Norman Miranda, Chef de Cabinet of the Office of the President of the General Assembly.

General Assembly

Sixty-third session

Informal consultations of the process on strengthening international environmental governance to hear feedback from delegations on the revised draft resolution will be held on Tuesday, 25, and Wednesday, 26 November 2008, at 3 p.m. in Conference Room 2.

Main Committees**Third Committee**

- 10 a.m.–1 p.m. 44th meeting Conference Room 1
- 3–6 p.m. 45th meeting Conference Room 1
1. Promotion and protection of human rights: Human rights questions, including alternative approaches for improving the effective enjoyment of human rights and fundamental freedoms [64 (b)]
Action on draft resolutions A/C.3/63/L.31, A/C.3/63/L.32, A/C.3/63/L.35/Rev.1 (and amendments contained in A/C.3/63/L.74 and A/C.3/63/L.75), A/C.3/63/L.38/Rev.1, A/C.3/63/L.41 and A/C.3/63/L.44
 2. Promotion and protection of human rights: Human rights situations and reports of special rapporteurs and representatives [64 (c)]
Action on draft resolutions A/C.3/63/L.26, A/C.3/63/L.33 (programme budget implications: A/C.3/63/L.71) and A/C.3/63/L.40
 3. Advancement of women [56 (a)]
Action on draft resolution A/C.3/63/L.13/Rev.1
 4. Elimination of racism and racial discrimination: Elimination of racism, racial discrimination, xenophobia and related intolerance [62 (a)]
Action on draft resolution A/C.3/63/L.53/Rev.1 (programme budget implications: A/C.3/63/L.72)
 5. Right of peoples to self-determination [63]
Action on draft resolution A/C.3/63/L.50/Rev.1
 6. Promotion and protection of human rights: Human rights questions, including alternative approaches for improving the effective enjoyment of human rights and fundamental freedoms [64 (b)]
Action on draft resolutions A/C.3/63/L.22/Rev.1, A/C.3/63/L.34 and A/C.3/63/L.42/Rev.1

Fifth Committee

- 10–11.30 a.m. Informal consultations (closed) Conference Room 5
 Informal consultations on agenda item 122 (Scale of assessments for the apportionment of the expenses of the United Nations (A/63/11, A/63/68, A/62/11, A/62/70, A/60/140, A/60/140/Corr.1, A/58/189, A/C.5/61/11 and A/56/767))
- 11.30 a.m.–1 p.m. Informal consultations (closed) Conference Room 5
 Informal consultations on agenda item 125 (United Nations common system (A/63/30, A/63/360 and A/63/501))
- 3–6 p.m. Informal consultations (closed) Conference Room 5
 Informal consultations on agenda item 118 (Programme budget for the biennium 2008–2009: Information and communication technology (A/62/793, A/62/793/Corr.1,

A/62/793/Add.1, A/62/510/Rev.1, A/62/477, A/62/487, A/62/502, A/62/7/Add.31, A/61/290, A/61/478, A/63/487, A/63/487/Corr.1, A/63/487/Corr.2, A/61/765, A/61/804, A/61/826, A/62/537, A/62/806, A/63/496, A/60/582, A/60/582/Add.1, A/60/665, A/60/665/Add.1, A/63/140 and A/63/140/Add.1))

General Assembly

Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions

10 a.m.–1 p.m. Closed meeting Conference Room 1
 3–6 p.m. Closed meeting Conference Room 1
 African Union–United Nations Hybrid Operation in Darfur (UNAMID)

General Assembly

Special Committee on Peacekeeping Operations

Informal briefing

There will be an informal briefing by the Department on Peacekeeping Operations to members of the Special Committee on “The integrated mission planning process” *today*, 21 November 2008, from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. in Conference Room 4.

General Assembly Security Council

Peacebuilding Commission

Third session

Guinea-Bissau configuration

Sierra Leone configuration

High-level briefing

There will be a high-level briefing to members of the Guinea-Bissau and Sierra Leone configurations of the Peacebuilding Commission on “Drug trafficking as a security threat in West Africa”, by the Executive Director of the United Nations Office on Drug and Crime, Mr. Antonio Maria Costa, *today*, 21 November 2008, from 3 to 5 p.m. in the Trusteeship Council Chamber.

Informal meetings on draft proposals convened by delegations

Friday, 21 November 2008

General Assembly

Informal consultations on the draft resolution entitled “2001-2010: Decade to Roll Back Malaria in Developing Countries, Particularly in Africa” (under agenda item 43) (convened by the delegation of the United Republic of Tanzania)

1.15–2.45 p.m. Closed meeting Conference Room

Informal consultations on the draft resolution entitled "Strengthening of the coordination of emergency humanitarian assistance of the United Nations" (under agenda item 65 (a)) (convened by the delegation of Sweden)

3-6 p.m. Closed meeting Conference Room 4

Second Committee

Informal "informal" consultations on the draft resolution on natural disasters and vulnerability (under agenda item 49 (c)) (convened by the delegation of Switzerland)

9-11.30 a.m. Closed meeting Conference Room B

Informal "informal" consultations on the draft resolution on the Caribbean Sea (under agenda item 49 (b)) (convened by the delegation of Guatemala)

9-10.30 a.m. Closed meeting Conference Room E

Informal "informal" consultations on the draft resolution entitled "International migration and development" (under agenda item 51 (b)) (convened by the delegation of Morocco)

10 a.m.-1 p.m. Closed meeting Conference Room C

Informal "informal" consultations on the draft resolution on information and communication technologies for development (under agenda item 46) (convened by the delegation of Argentina)

10 a.m.-1 p.m. Closed meeting Conference Room C-209B

Informal "informal" consultations on the draft resolution on the implementation of Agenda 21, the Programme for the Further Implementation of Agenda 21 and the outcomes of the World Summit on Sustainable Development (under agenda item 49 (a)) (convened by the delegation of Kenya)

10-11.30 a.m. Closed meeting Trusteeship Council Chamber

Informal "informal" consultations on the draft resolution entitled "The role of microcredit and microfinance in the Eradication of Poverty" (under agenda item 53 (a)) (convened by the delegation of Suriname)

10.30 a.m.-1 p.m. Closed meeting Conference Room E

Informal "informal" consultations on the draft resolution on the report of the Governing Council of the United Nations Environment Programme on its tenth special session (under agenda item 49 (g)) (convened by the delegation of Germany)

11.30 a.m.-1 p.m. Closed meeting Conference Room B

Informal "informal" consultations on the draft resolution on the implementation of the United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification in Those Countries Experiencing Serious Drought and/or Desertification, Particularly in Africa (under agenda item 49 (e)) (convened by the delegation of Lebanon)

1-3 p.m. Closed meeting Conference Room B

Informal "informal" consultations on the draft resolution on the implementation of the second United Nations Decade for the Eradication of Poverty (2008-2017) (under agenda item 53 (a)) (convened by the delegation of Afghanistan)

1.15-2.30 p.m. Closed meeting Conference Room I

Informal “informal” consultations on the draft resolution entitled “Towards a new international economic order” (under agenda item 51 (a)) (convened by the Vice-Chairman of the Second Committee (Guyana))

3–4.30 p.m. Closed meeting Conference Room B

Informal “informal” consultations on the draft resolution on South-South cooperation (under agenda item 54) (convened by the delegation of Jamaica)

3–6 p.m. Closed meeting Conference Room C

Informal “informal” consultations on the draft resolution on the implementation of the outcome of the United Nations Conference on Human Settlements (Habitat II) and strengthening of the United Nations Human Settlements Programme (UN-Habitat) (under agenda item 50) (convened by the delegation of Italy)

3–4.30 p.m. Closed meeting Conference Room S-1527A

Informal “informal” consultations on the draft resolution entitled “Preventing and combating corrupt practices and transfer of assets of illicit origin and returning such assets, in particular to the countries of origin, consistent with the United Nations Convention against Corruption” (under agenda item 51 (d)) (convened by the delegation of the Philippines)

4–6 p.m. Closed meeting Conference Room C-209B

Informal “informal” consultations on the draft resolution entitled “Specific actions related to the particular needs and problems of landlocked developing countries: outcome of the International Ministerial Conference of Landlocked and Transit Developing Countries and Donor Countries and International Financial and Development Institutions on Transit Transport Cooperation” (under agenda item 52 (b)) (convened by the delegation of Japan)

4.30–6 p.m. Closed meeting Conference Room B

Informal “informal” consultations on the draft resolution on the International Strategy for Disaster Reduction (under agenda item 49 (c)) (convened by the delegation of Ireland)

4.30–6 p.m. Closed meeting Conference Room E

Third Committee

Informal consultations on the draft resolution entitled “Global efforts for the total elimination of racism, racial discrimination, xenophobia and related intolerance and the comprehensive implementation of and follow-up to the Durban Declaration and Programme of Action” (under agenda item 62 (b)) (convened by the delegation of Antigua and Barbuda)

1.15–2.45 p.m. Closed meeting Conference Room 2

4.30–6 p.m. Closed meeting Conference Room D

Informal consultations on the draft resolution on the elimination of all forms of intolerance and of discrimination based on religion and belief (under agenda item 64 (b)) (convened by the delegation of France)

1.15–3 p.m. Closed meeting Conference Room C

Other meetings

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Friday, 21 November 2008

Group of 77 (on the omnibus draft resolution on Law of the Sea)

9.15–9.45 a.m. Closed meeting Conference Room 6
1.15–2.30 p.m. Closed meeting Conference Room D

Group of 77 (on the draft outcome document for the Follow-up International Conference on Financing for Development to Review the Implementation of the Monterrey Consensus)

9.30 a.m.–1 p.m. Closed meeting Conference Room 7

Group of 77 (on Second Committee matters)

10 a.m.–1 p.m. Closed meeting Conference Room 8
1.15–2.30 p.m. Closed meeting Conference Room 9
3–6 p.m. Closed meeting Conference Room 8

Group of 77 (on Fifth Committee matters)

2–2.45 p.m. Closed meeting Conference Room 5

Seventh Coordination Meeting on International Migration (organized by the Population Division, Department of Economic and Social Affairs)

10 a.m.–1 p.m. Closed meeting Conference Room A
3–6 p.m. Closed meeting Conference Room A

Group of the Least Developed Countries (at the expert level)

10.30 a.m.–1 p.m. Closed meeting Conference Room 9

Group of Latin American and Caribbean States

1.15–2.30 p.m. Closed meeting Conference Room 6

Group of Eastern European States (at the expert level)

3–4 p.m. Closed meeting Conference Room D

OIC Group (Third Committee experts)

3–6 p.m. Closed meeting Conference Room 2

Other activities

The information below is reproduced as received and does not imply any opinion or endorsement by the Secretariat of the United Nations.

Friday, 21 November 2008

Interactive panel on “Ending impunity and maintaining humanitarian access: Dilemmas in law and practice?” (webcast from United Nations Headquarters by Harvard University, in coordination with the Permanent Mission of Switzerland, the Ad Hoc Working Group on Informatics and the Office of the Chief Information Technology Officer)

From 10 to 11.30 a.m. in Conference Room S-2127A (also available in other Headquarters conference rooms).

[All are invited to individually register for the interactive webcast panel at <<https://harvardsph.webex.com>>. For further information or to register to attend in a conference room, please contact Ms. Hyun Jin Chung, Office of the Chief Information Technology Officer (tel. 1 (212) 963-4144; e-mail chungjh@un.org).]

2008 Parliamentary Hearing on “Towards effective peacekeeping and the prevention of conflict — Delivering on our commitments” (jointly organized by the Inter-Parliamentary Union and the Office of the President of the General Assembly)

From 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. and from 3 to 6 p.m. in the Economic and Social Council Chamber.

[All are invited to attend. The full program is available at <www.ipu.org/splz-unga08.htm>. For further information, contact Mr. Alessandro Motter or Ms. Marina Garde, Office of the Permanent Observer of the IPU (tel. 1 (212) 557-5880; e-mail ny-office@mail.ipu.org).]

Briefing by the Executive Director of the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime on the work of the Terrorism Prevention Branch of UNODC

From 1.15 to 2.45 p.m. in the Trusteeship Council Chamber.

[All are invited to attend. For further information, please contact Mrs. Allison Torbet, UNODC New York Office (tel. 1 (212) 963-5698; e-mail torbet@un.org).]

Press conferences

The schedule below is tentative; up-to-date information can be obtained at <www.un.org/News/press/conf.htm>.

Friday, 21 November 2008

Room S-226

12 noon Press briefing by the Spokesperson

Forthcoming official meetings

Monday, 24 November 2008

General Assembly

Sixty-third session

3 p.m.	57th plenary meeting	General Assembly Hall
	1. Promotion and protection of human rights: draft resolution (A/63/L.31) ¹	[64]
	2. Question of Palestine	[16]
	(a) Report of the Committee on the Exercise of the Inalienable Rights of the Palestinian People (A/63/35)	
	(b) Report of the Secretary-General (A/63/368)	
	3. The situation in the Middle East: Reports of the Secretary-General (A/63/361 and A/63/368)	[15]

¹To be issued.

Main Committees

Fifth Committee

The Fifth Committee will hold its 20th meeting on Monday, 24 November 2008, at 10 a.m. in Conference Room 3. Informal consultations (closed) will be held following the adjournment of the 20th meeting and at 3 p.m. in Conference Room 5.

General Assembly

Committee on the Exercise of the Inalienable Rights of the Palestinian People

Observance of the International Day of Solidarity with the Palestinian People

The Committee on the Exercise of the Inalienable Rights of the Palestinian People will hold a special meeting in observance of the International Day of Solidarity with the Palestinian People (314th meeting), on Monday, 24 November 2008, from 10.30 a.m. to 1 p.m. in the Trusteeship Council Chamber, in accordance with General Assembly resolution 32/40B of 2 December 1977.

Invitations to address the special meeting have been extended to the President of the General Assembly, the Secretary-General, the President of the Security Council, a representative of Palestine, the Chairman of the Special Committee to Investigate Israeli Practices Affecting the Human Rights of the Palestinian People and Other Arabs of the Occupied Territory, several intergovernmental organizations, and a representative of civil society.

All Member States and observers, as well as United Nations agencies and bodies, are invited to attend the special meeting. Messages of solidarity should be sent to the Division for Palestinian Rights (room S-3350), which will be published in a special bulletin of the Division.

Independent Audit Advisory Committee

Fourth session

The Independent Audit Advisory Committee will hold its fourth session (closed) in Conference Room 9, on Monday, 1 December 2008, from 9 a.m. to 12.30 p.m. and from 2.15 to 6 p.m.; Tuesday, 2 December, from 9 a.m. to 12.30 p.m. and from 2.15 to 6 p.m. and Wednesday, 3 December 2008, from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. and from 2 to 6 p.m.

Ad Hoc Committee of the General Assembly for the Announcement of Voluntary Contributions to the United Nations Relief and Works Agency for Palestine Refugees in the Near East

The Ad hoc Committee of the General Assembly for the Announcement of Voluntary Contributions to the United Nations Relief and Works Agency for Palestine Refugees in the Near East will meet on Wednesday, 10 December 2008, at 11 a.m. in the Economic and Social Council Chamber.

**General Assembly
Security Council****Peacebuilding Commission**

Third session

Working Group on Lessons Learned

There will be a meeting (open) of the Working Group on Lessons Learned of the Peacebuilding Commission on "Learning from a regional DDR approach in the Great Lakes region of Africa", on Monday, 24 November 2008, from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. in Conference Room 4.

Economic and Social Council**United Nations Permanent Forum on Indigenous Issues****International expert group meeting on the implementation of article 42 of the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples**

The international expert group meeting on the role of the United Nations Permanent Forum on Indigenous Issues in the implementation of article 42 of the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples will take place from Wednesday, 14, to Friday, 16 January 2009, in Conference Room 5. Member States interested in attending, *at the expert level*, are kindly requested to inscribe with the secretariat of the Permanent Forum, by Friday, 5 December 2008 (tel. 1 (917) 367-5759; fax 1 (917) 367-5102; e-mail pollack@un.org). Given space limitations, the list of participants in the meeting will be established on a first-come, first-served basis. The documents for the meeting are available at <www.un.org/esa/socdev/unpfii/en/EGM_A42.html>.

United Nations Children's Fund**Executive Board**

Informal briefing

The Executive Board of UNICEF will hold the second informal briefing on the UNICEF accountability system on Monday, 24 November 2008, from 3 to 5 p.m. in the Trusteeship Council Chamber. All interested delegations are invited to attend.

General Assembly

Sixty-third session

Drafting sessions on the draft outcome document for the Follow-up International Conference on Financing for Development to Review the Implementation of the Monterrey Consensus (Doha, Qatar, 29 November–2 December 2008)

In accordance with General Assembly resolution 62/187 (A/RES/62/187), drafting sessions on the draft outcome document for the Doha Review Conference (A/CONF.212/CRP.1) will be held in November 2008. The schedule of meetings and the draft outcome document are posted on the Web site of the Financing for Development Office <www.un.org/esa/ffd>.

All accredited stakeholders are invited to attend the drafting sessions; although only representatives of Governments and of the three major institutional stakeholders will be permitted to participate in the discussion, following the practice used in the preparatory phase for the Monterrey Conference.

In keeping with previous practice, stakeholders are welcome to make available in writing any contributions they deem appropriate, which should be addressed to the Co-Facilitators, with a copy to the Financing for Development Office, indicating their wish to have them posted on the Financing for Development Web site.

Forthcoming informal meetings on draft proposals convened by delegations*General Assembly*

Informal consultations on the draft resolution entitled "International cooperation on humanitarian assistance in the field of natural disasters, from relief to development" (under agenda item 65) (convened by the delegation of India)

Monday, 24 November 2008, from 3 to 6 p.m. in Conference Room D;

Wednesday, 26 November 2008, from 3. to 6 p.m. in Conference Room 9; and

Friday, 28 November 2008, from 3 to 6 p.m. in Conference Room D.

Informal consultations on draft resolution A/63/L.8, entitled "Security and climate change" (under agenda item 107) (convened by the delegation of Tonga and the delegations of the Pacific Small Island Developing States)

Tuesday, 25 November 2008, from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. in Conference Room 9.

Informal consultations on the draft resolution entitled "Strengthening emergency relief, rehabilitation, reconstruction and prevention in the aftermath of the Indian Ocean tsunami disaster" (under agenda item 65) (convened by the delegation of Indonesia, on behalf of the Association of Southeast Asian Nations (ASEAN) and affected countries)

Wednesday, 26 November 2008, from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. in Conference Room A; and

Tuesday, 2 December 2008, from 3 to 6 p.m. in Conference Room E.

Informal consultations on the draft resolution on the recognition of sickle-cell anaemia as a public health priority (under agenda item 155 (b)) (convened by the delegation of the Congo)

Wednesday, 26 November 2008, from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. in Conference Room D.

Second Committee

Informal "informal" consultations on the draft resolution on the Third United Nations Conference on the Least Developed Countries (under agenda item 52 (a)) (convened by the delegation of Belgium)

Monday, 24 November 2008, from 9 to 11 a.m. in Conference Room S-770.

Informal "informal" consultations on the draft resolution on the role of the United Nations in promoting development in the context of globalization and interdependence (under agenda item 51 (a)) (convened by the delegation of the Netherlands)

Monday, 24 November 2008, from 10 to 11.30 a.m. in Conference Room C.

Informal "informal" consultations on the draft resolution on the implementation of the United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification in Those Countries Experiencing Serious Drought and/or Desertification, Particularly in Africa (under agenda item 49 (e)) (convened by the delegation of Lebanon)

Monday, 24 November 2008, from 1 to 3 p.m. in Conference Room B.

Informal "informal" consultations on the draft resolution entitled "Preventing and combating corrupt practices and transfer of assets of illicit origin and returning such assets, in particular to the countries of origin, consistent with the United Nations Convention against Corruption" (under agenda item 51 (d)) (convened by the delegation of the Philippines)

Monday, 24 November 2008, from 3 to 4.30 p.m. in Conference Room B.

Informal "informal" consultations on the draft resolution entitled "Specific actions related to the particular needs and problems of landlocked developing countries: outcome of the International Ministerial Conference of Landlocked and Transit Developing Countries and Donor Countries and International Financial and Development Institutions on Transit Transport Cooperation" (under agenda item 52 (b)) (convened by the delegation of Japan)

Monday, 24 November 2008, from 4.30 to 6 p.m. in Conference Room B.

Other forthcoming meetings

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Group of Latin American and Caribbean States

Tuesday, 25 November 2008, from 3 to 6 p.m. in Conference Room 1.

Forthcoming other activities

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Special events on the occasion of the International Day of Solidarity with the Palestinian People (organized by the Committee on the Exercise of the Inalienable Rights of the Palestinian People, in cooperation with the Permanent Observer Mission of Palestine)

Monday, 24 November 2008:

Screening of the film entitled "La terre parle arabe", at 1 p.m. in the Dag Hammarskjöld Library Auditorium; and

Opening of the exhibit entitled "The Palestinians: 60 years of struggle and enduring hope", at 6 p.m., in the Public Lobby of the General Assembly Building (north-east corner).

[All are invited to attend.]

High-level event on “United voices say *no* to violence against women”, on the occasion of the International Day for the Elimination of Violence against Women (organized by the United Nations Development Fund for Women (UNIFEM))

Tuesday, 25 November 2008, from 1 to 2.30 p.m. in the Economic and Social Council Chamber.

[All are invited to attend. To register, please contact Ms. Urjasi Rudra, UNIFEM (tel. 1 (212) 906-3623; e-mail urjasi.rudra@unifem.org). For further information, please visit www.saynotoviolence.org.]

UNU panel discussion on “Protracted refugee situations: Political, human rights and security implications” (organized by the United Nations University Office in New York (UNU-ONY))

Tuesday, 25 November 2008, from 1.15 to 2.45 p.m. in Conference Room 7.

[All are invited to attend. To register or for more information, please visit www.ony.unu.edu; or contact Ms. Anna Chrisp, UNU-ONY (tel. 1 (212) 963-6387; e-mail anna@ony.unu.edu).]

UNITAR Seminar on International Trade and Policy

Monday, 1 December 2008, from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. and from 3 to 6 p.m. in Conference Room E;

Tuesday, 2 December 2008, from 9.30 a.m. to 1 p.m. and from 3 to 6 p.m.;

Wednesday, 3 December 2008, from 3 to 6 p.m.; and

Thursday, 4, and Friday, 5 December 2008, from 9.30 a.m. to 1 p.m.; all sessions will take place in Conference Room E.

[To register, please visit www.unitar.org. For further information, please contact Mr. David Koschel, UNITAR (room DC1-603; tel. 1 (212) 963-3021; e-mail koschel@un.org).]

Special events on the occasion of the International Day of Persons with Disabilities on the theme “Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities: Dignity and justice for all of us”

Wednesday, 3 December 2008:

Opening of the International Day

From 9.30 to 9.40 a.m. in Conference Room 4.

Seminar on “Implementing the digital accessibility agenda of the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities” (co-organized by UNITAR, G3ict, Global Alliance for ICT and Development, DESA, and the secretariat of the Convention, DESA)

From 9.40 a.m. to 1.30 p.m. in Conference Room 4.

[To register, please visit www.unitar.org. For further information, please contact Mr. David Koschel, UNITAR (room DC1-603; tel. 1 (212) 963-3021; e-mail koschel@un.org).]

Multimedia presentation on "Protecting and promoting the rights of persons with disabilities through advocacy efforts on the Convention for the Rights of Persons with Disabilities and the Convention on Cluster Munitions: Experience, perspectives and tools from the field" (organized by the United Nations Mine Action Service (UNMAS), Office of Rule of Law and Security Institutions, Department of Peacekeeping Operations)

From 1.30 to 2 p.m. in Conference Room 4.

[For further information, please contact Mr. Aaron J. Buckley, UNMAS (tel. 1 (212) 963-4632; e-mail buckleya@un.org).]

Musical performances (co-organized by the Permanent Missions of Australia and Hungary, in cooperation with the secretariat for the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities, DESA)

From 12 noon to 2.30 p.m. in the Dag Hammarskjöld Library Auditorium.

[To register, please visit <<http://social.un.org/absoluteftp/3Dec08.htm>>. For further information, please contact Ms. Céline-Andrée Adotevi, DESA (e-mail adotevi@un.org).]

UNU panel discussion on "The politics of hydrogen" and book launch (organized by the United Nations University Office in New York (UNU-ONY))

Thursday, 4 December 2008, from 1.15 to 2.45 p.m. in Conference Room 8.

[All are invited to attend. To register or for more information, please visit <www.ony.unu.edu>; or contact Mr. Durlabh Maharishi, UNU-ONY (tel. 1 (212) 963-6387; e-mail durlabh@ony.unu.edu).]

Forthcoming official meetings held away from Headquarters

Follow-up International Conference on Financing for Development to Review the Implementation of the Monterrey Consensus

Doha, Qatar, 29 November–2 December 2008

The Follow-up International Conference on Financing for Development to Review the Implementation of the Monterrey Consensus will be held from Saturday, 29 November, to Tuesday, 2 December 2008, at the Convention Centre of the Sheraton Doha Resort and Convention Hotel.

Plenary meetings

The Conference will include eight plenary meetings. The plenary meetings will be held on Saturday, 29 November, from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. and from 3 to 6 p.m.; and from

Sunday, 30 November, to Tuesday, 2 December, from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. and from 3 to 7 p.m. All plenary meetings will be held at the Al Dafna Hall.

List of speakers

The list of speakers for the plenary meetings is open. Inscriptions shall be on a first-come, first-served basis, and will be rearranged in accordance with the established practice of the General Assembly. Delegations are reminded that interventions in the plenary meetings *should be limited to 5 minutes*, on the understanding that this will not preclude the distribution of more extensive texts.

Delegations wishing to speak in the plenary meetings are kindly reminded that they may still inscribe with the General Assembly Affairs Branch (room S-2994B; tel. 1 (212) 963-2333; fax 1 (212) 963-3783; or e-mail dizon@un.org), until *today*, 21 November 2008. After this date, delegations that have not yet inscribed on the list of speakers are kindly invited to do so by e-mail (dizon@un.org); or contact Ms. Carmencita Dizon, in Doha, as of *Wednesday, 26 November 2008*.

Round tables

The Conference will include six interactive multi-stakeholder round tables on the six major thematic areas of the Monterrey Consensus. The round tables will be held on Saturday, 29 November, from 3 to 6 p.m. (round table 1); Sunday, 30 November, from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. (round table 2) and from 3 to 6 p.m. (round table 3); Monday, 1 December, from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. (round table 4) and from 3 to 6 p.m. (round table 5); and Tuesday, 2 December, from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. (round table 6). All the round tables will be held at the Al Majlis Auditorium.

Each round table will be open to participation by representatives of all Member States; 21 representatives of observers, relevant entities of the United Nations system and other accredited intergovernmental organizations; 7 representatives of accredited civil society organizations; and 7 representatives of accredited business sector entities. Each representative may be accompanied by one adviser. No list of speakers will be established.

Credentials of representatives

Delegations are reminded that credentials should be issued for all representatives, in accordance with rule 3 of the provisional rules of procedure of the Conference. Credentials should be sent to the secretariat of the Credentials Committee (room S-3420D; tel. 1 (212) 963-1107; or fax 1 (212) 963-6430). Delegations are reminded that the last day for submission of credentials at United Nations Headquarters will be *Tuesday, 25 November*. After that date, credentials should be submitted by delegations attending the Conference to the Credentials Committee at the Sheraton Convention Center in Doha, on an urgent basis.

Composition of delegations

The delegation of each State participating in the Conference and that of the European Community shall consist of a head of delegation and such other representatives, alternative representatives and advisers as may be required. Delegations were kindly requested to submit comprehensive lists of delegations to the Protocol and Liaison Service in New York (room S-201; fax 1 (212) 963-1921). As of Monday, 24 November 2008, delegation lists, accreditation forms and all other conference-related materials should be submitted for processing to the United Nations Accreditation Centre in Doha.

The provisional agenda, the provisional rules of procedure of the Conference and the note by the Secretariat on organizational and procedural matters of work are contained in documents A/CONF.212/1, A/CONF.212/2 and A/CONF.212/4, respectively.

Further information, including the list of side events, can be consulted from the Financing for Development Web site <www.un.org/esa/ffd/doha>.

Announcements

United Nations Administrative Tribunal (27 October–26 November 2008)

The United Nations Administrative Tribunal will hold closed meetings *every day* until Wednesday, 26 November 2008, from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. and from 3 to 6 p.m., in Suite 625 (DC2 Building).

Preparations for the fifty-third session of the Commission on the Status of Women

In preparation for the fifty-third session of the Commission on the Status of Women (2–13 March 2009), delegations are invited to propose names of expert panellists to participate in two panel discussions on the following themes: (a) Key policy initiatives and innovative approaches to promote the equal sharing of responsibilities between women and men, including care-giving in the context of HIV/AIDS; and (b) Capacity building for mainstreaming a gender perspective into national policies and programmes to support the equal sharing of responsibilities between women and men, including care-giving in the context of HIV/AIDS. Delegations are requested to submit names indicating the panel for which the expert(s) is (are) being nominated and to provide curricula vitae outlining the specific expertise and experience of the proposed candidate in relation to the theme of the panel. Information should be sent to the Division for the Advancement of Women (e-mail jagwanth@un.org or williams-carter@un.org; fax 1 (212) 963-3463), no later than *Friday, 28 November 2008*. Further details on the panel discussions will be made available at <www.un.org/womenwatch/daw/csw/53sess.htm#interactive>.

Launch of the new Web site of the United Nations Office for Disarmament Affairs (UNODA)

The United Nations Office for Disarmament Affairs is pleased to announce the launch of its newly revamped and improved Web site <www.un.org/disarmament>. For further information, please e-mail UNODA-web@un.org.

General Assembly

Credentials of representatives to the sixty-third session of the General Assembly

Delegations are reminded that credentials should be issued for all representatives to the sixty-third regular session of the General Assembly, in accordance with rule 27 of the rules of procedure of the General Assembly. Credentials should be sent to the secretariat of the Credentials Committee (room S-3420B or S-3420D; tel. 1 (212) 963-5352 or 963-1107).

Launch of the new Web site of the *United Nations Treaty Collection*

The Treaty Section of the Office of Legal Affairs is pleased to announce its new and substantially enhanced Web site in English and French at <treaties.un.org>. The Web site, known as the United Nations Treaty Collection (UNTC), is the authoritative source of information on multilateral treaties deposited with the Secretary-General and treaties registered with the Secretariat. A user name and password are no longer needed to access the collection. For further information, please contact the Treaty Section (tel. 1 (212) 963-5047).

Trust Fund for the Follow-up to the International Conference on Financing for Development

The Trust Fund for the Follow-up to the International Conference on Financing for Development seeks voluntary contributions in order to support the activities involved in the preparations for the Doha Review Conference in 2008, and to support the travel and participation of representatives of developing countries, in particular least developed countries (para. 12 of General Assembly resolution 62/187 (A/RES/62/187)). The Secretary-General issued, on 6 June 2008, a note verbale to all Governments through their Permanent Missions, appealing for voluntary contributions to the Trust Fund. In accordance with the terms of reference of the Trust Fund, voluntary contributions may be received from Governments, intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations, private institutions and individuals.

For further information on the Trust Fund, please contact Ms. Dominika Halka, Financing for Development Office, DESA (tel. 1 (212) 963-6653; e-mail halka@un.org); or visit <www.un.org/esa/ffd/trustfund/>.

Security Council**Web site of the presidency**

The Web site of the presidency of the Security Council can be visited at <www.un.org/sc/presidency.asp>.

Recorded information

Recorded information about previously unscheduled meetings and consultations of the whole of the Security Council may be obtained by calling 1 (212) 963-8530, or by clicking on "Daily Programme" on the Web site of the Security Council <www.un.org/Docs/sc>.

Prepared statements

Speakers in the Security Council are advised that providing in advance copies of prepared statements which they intend to read out in the Council greatly facilitates the work of the Secretariat by permitting a sufficient number of copies to be distributed to all meeting participants and by assisting interpreters, verbatim reporters and press officers in maintaining the quality of the product delivered. Both interpretations and verbatim records rely upon the statement actually delivered, but copies of texts help interpreters to correctly render details and nuances and help verbatim reporters to produce the written record more quickly. Speakers are therefore encouraged, whenever possible, to provide copies of their statements, as early as possible in advance of delivery, to the Conference Officer in the Chamber.

Delegations are kindly requested to make 40 copies for minimum distribution to Council members and relevant services, and 200 additional copies for general distribution in the Security Council Chamber.

Delegations wishing to make statements available for the media are kindly requested to deliver 50 copies to the Media Documents Centre (room S-394).

Access to back issues of the *Journal of the United Nations*

Back issues of the *Journal of the United Nations*, in English and French, can be accessed at the following addresses: <www.un.org/ga/search/journal.asp> and <www.un.org/french/ga/search/journal.asp>.

[All comments and suggestions about the daily *Journal* are welcomed. Kindly contact the Journal Unit at journal@un.org.]

Summary of official meetings

Thursday, 20 November 2008

Security Council

6018th meeting

The situation concerning the Democratic Republic of the Congo

Letter dated 31 October 2008 from the Secretary-General addressed to the President of the Security Council (S/2008/703)

The agenda was adopted without objection.

The President, with the consent of the Council, extended an invitation to the representative of the Democratic Republic of the Congo, at his request, to participate in the consideration of the item without the right to vote, in accordance with the relevant provisions of the Charter and rule 37 of the Council's provisional rules of procedure.

The President drew attention to the text of a draft resolution contained in document S/2008/716, which had been submitted by Belgium, Costa Rica, France, Italy, South Africa, the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland and the United States of America.

The Council proceeded to vote on the draft resolution (S/2008/716) before it.

Decision: The draft resolution (S/2008/716) received 15 votes in favour, none against and no abstentions, and was adopted unanimously as resolution 1843 (2008).

After the vote, a statement was made by the representative of South Africa.

6019th meeting

The situation in Somalia

Report of the Secretary-General on the situation in Somalia (S/2008/709)

The agenda was adopted without objection.

The President, with the consent of the Council, extended an invitation to the representative of Somalia, at his request, to participate in the consideration of the item without the right to vote, in accordance with the relevant provisions of the Charter and rule 37 of the Council's provisional rules of procedure.

The President drew attention to the text of a draft resolution contained in document S/2008/710, which had been submitted by the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland.

The Council proceeded to vote on the draft resolution (S/2008/710) before it.

Decision: The draft resolution (S/2008/710) received 15 votes in favour, none against and no abstentions, and was adopted unanimously as resolution 1844 (2008).

6020th meeting

The situation in Somalia

Report of the Secretary-General on the situation in Somalia (S/2008/709)

The agenda was adopted without objection.

The President, with the consent of the Council, invited the representative of Somalia, at his request, to participate in the consideration of the item without the right to vote, in accordance with the relevant provisions of the Charter and rule 37 of the Council's provisional rules of procedure.

In accordance with the understanding reached in the Council's prior consultations, the President, with the consent of the Council, extended invitations under rule 39 of the Council's provisional rules of procedure to Mr. Haile Menkerios, Assistant Secretary-General for Political Affairs, and to Mr. Raisedon Zenenga, Director of the Africa II Division of the Department of Peacekeeping Operations.

In accordance with the understanding reached in the Council's prior consultations, the President, with the consent of the Council, extended an invitation under rule 39 of the Council's provisional rules of procedure to Mr. Efthimios Mitropoulos, Secretary-General of the International Maritime Organization.

Pursuant to a request contained in a letter dated 11 November 2008 from the Permanent Representative of the Libyan Arab Jamahiriya, the President, with the consent of the Council, extended an invitation under rule 39 of the Council's provisional rules of procedure to Ms. Lila Ratsifandrihamanana, Permanent Observer of the African Union.

The Council began its consideration of the item and heard briefings by Mr. Menkerios and by Mr. Zenenga.

The Council heard a briefing by Mr. Mitropoulos.

The Council heard a statement by the representative of Somalia.

The Council heard a statement by Ms. Ratsifandrihamanana.

Statements were made by the representatives of South Africa, France, Italy, the Libyan Arab Jamahiriya, Burkina Faso, Indonesia, Viet Nam, Panama, China, Belgium, Croatia, the Russian Federation, the United States and the United Kingdom, and by the President, speaking in his capacity as the representative of Costa Rica.

6021st meeting

The situation in Bosnia and Herzegovina

Letter dated 13 November 2008 from the Secretary-General addressed to the President of the Security Council (S/2008/705)

The agenda was adopted without objection.

The President, with the consent of the Council, invited the representative of Bosnia and Herzegovina, at his request, to participate in the consideration of the item without the right to vote, in accordance with the relevant provisions of the Charter and rule 37 of the Council's provisional rules of procedure.

The President drew attention to the text of a draft resolution contained in document S/2008/720, submitted by Belgium, Croatia, France, Italy, the Russian Federation, the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland and the United States of America.

The Council proceeded to vote on the draft resolution (S/2008/720) before it.

Decision: The draft resolution (S/2008/720) received 15 votes in favour, none against and no abstentions, and was adopted unanimously as resolution 1845 (2008).

General Assembly

Sixty-third session

56th plenary meeting

Report of the Security Council (A/63/2) [9]

Question of equitable representation on and increase in the membership of the Security Council and related matters [111]

Joint debate

The General Assembly continued its consideration of agenda items 9 and 111.

Statements were made by the representatives of Tonga (on behalf of the Pacific Small Islands Developing States) and Cape Verde.

The General Assembly took note of the report of the Security Council (A/63/2).

Statements in exercise of the right of reply were made by the representatives of Japan, the Sudan, Morocco, the Republic of Korea, the Democratic People's Republic of Korea and South Africa.

The General Assembly thus concluded this stage of its consideration of agenda items 9 and 111.

Appointments to fill vacancies in subsidiary organs and other appointments [105]

(a) *Appointment of members of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions: report of the Fifth Committee (A/63/528)*

The General Assembly, as recommended by the Fifth Committee in paragraph 6 of its report (A/63/528), appointed the following persons as members of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions for a three-year term of office beginning on 1 January 2009: Ms. Aïcha Afifi (Morocco), Ms. Renata Archini (Italy), Mr. Vladimir Alekseevitch Iosifov (Russian Federation), Mr. Alejandro Torres Lépori (Argentina) and Ms. Susan McLurg (United States of America).

(b) *Appointment of members of the Committee on Contributions: report of the Fifth Committee (A/63/529)*

The General Assembly, as recommended by the Fifth Committee in paragraph 4 of its report (A/63/529), appointed the following persons as members of the Committee on Contributions for a three-year term of office beginning on 1 January 2009: Mr. Vyacheslav Anatolievich Lagutov (Russian Federation), Mr. Richard Moon (United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland), Mr. Hae-yun Park (Republic of

Korea), Mr. Thomas Thomma (Germany), Mr. Courtney Williams (Jamaica) and Mr. Wu Gang (China).

(c) *Confirmation of the appointment of members of the Investments Committee: report of the Fifth Committee (A/63/530)*

The General Assembly, as recommended by the Fifth Committee in paragraph 5 of its report (A/63/530), confirmed the reappointment by the Secretary-General of Mr. Masakazu Arikawa (Japan), Mr. Madhav Dhar (India) and Mr. Nemir Kirdar (Iraq) as members of the Investments Committee for a three-year term of office beginning on 1 January 2009 and the appointment of Ms. Linah Mahohlo (Botswana), to fill the remainder of the term of Mr. Khaya Ngqula (South Africa), effective 1 January 2009 and expiring on 31 December 2009.

The General Assembly, as recommended by the Fifth Committee in paragraph 6 of its report (A/63/530), also reappointed Mr. Ivan Pictet (Switzerland) as an ad hoc member of the Investments Committee for a one-year term of office beginning on 1 January 2009 and Mr. Simon Jiang (China) as an ad hoc member to replace Ms. Afsanch Beschloss (Islamic Republic of Iran) beginning on 1 January 2009.

(e) *Appointment of members of the International Civil Service Commission: report of the Fifth Committee (A/63/531)*

The General Assembly, as recommended by the Fifth Committee in paragraph 4 of its report (A/63/531), appointed the following persons as members of the International Civil Service Commission for a four-year term of office beginning on 1 January 2009: Mr. Fatih Bouayad-Agha (Algeria), Mr. Shamsheer Chowdhury (Bangladesh), Mr. Vladimir Morozov (Russian Federation), Mr. Wang Xiaochu (China) and Mr. El Hassane Zahid (Morocco).

(f) *Appointment of members and alternate members of the United Nations Staff Pension Committee: report of the Fifth Committee (A/63/532)*

The General Assembly, as recommended by the Fifth Committee in paragraph 4 of its report (A/63/532), appointed the following persons as members or alternate members of the United Nations Staff Pension Committee for a four-year term of office beginning on 1 January 2009: Ms. Valeria María González Posse (Argentina), Mr. Andrei Vitalievitch Kovalenko (Russian Federation), Mr. Gerhard Kuntzle (Germany), Mr. Lovemore Mazemo (Zimbabwe), Mr. Muhammad Muhith (Bangladesh), Mr. Philip Richard Okanda Owade (Kenya), Mr. Thomas Repasch (United States of America) and Mr. Jun Yamada (Japan).

The General Assembly thus concluded its consideration of sub-items (a) to (c) and (e) to (f) of agenda item 105.

Judges of the International Tribunal for the Prosecution of Persons Responsible for Serious Violations of International Humanitarian Law Committed in the Territory of the Former Yugoslavia since 1991: Letter from the Secretary-General addressed to the President of the General Assembly (A/63/548) [154]

The General Assembly resumed its consideration of agenda item 154.

The General Assembly took note of the appointment of Judge Christoph Flügge to the International Tribunal for the Former Yugoslavia for the remainder of the term of office of Judge Wolfgang Schomburg.

The General Assembly thus concluded this stage of its consideration of agenda item 154.

Revitalization of the work of the General Assembly [110]

The President of the General Assembly made a statement.

Statements were made by the representatives of France (on behalf of the European Union and those countries that aligned themselves with the statement), Algeria (on behalf of the Non-Aligned Movement), Colombia, Viet Nam, Cuba, Tunisia, Kazakhstan, Egypt, Indonesia, Japan, Belarus, Malaysia, Nepal, the Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela, Ecuador, India and Brazil.

The General Assembly thus concluded this stage of its consideration of agenda item 110.

Main Committees**Second Committee**

28th meeting

Macroeconomic policy questions: commodities [47 (d)]

The Committee resumed its consideration of the sub-item.

Introduction of draft resolution A/C.2/63/L.42

The representative of Antigua and Barbuda introduced the draft resolution, on behalf of the Group of 77 and China.

Groups of countries in special situations [52]

The Committee resumed its consideration of the item.

*(a) Third United Nations Conference on the Least Developed Countries**Introduction of draft resolution A/C.2/63/L.39*

The representative of Antigua and Barbuda introduced the draft resolution, on behalf of the Group of 77 and China.

*(b) Specific actions related to the particular needs and problems of landlocked developing countries: outcome of the International Ministerial Conference of Landlocked and Transit Developing Countries and Donor Countries and International Financial and Development Institutions on Transit Transport Cooperation**Introduction of draft resolution A/C.2/63/L.40*

The representative of Antigua and Barbuda introduced the draft resolution, on behalf of the Group of 77 and China.

Globalization and interdependence: role of the United Nations in promoting development in the context of globalization and interdependence [51 (a)]

The Committee resumed its consideration of the sub-item.

Introduction of draft resolution A/C.2/63/L.34

The representative of Antigua and Barbuda introduced the draft resolution, on behalf of the Group of 77 and China.

Macroeconomic policy questions: international trade and development [47 (a)]

The Chairperson drew the attention of the Committee to draft resolution A/C.2/63/L.35.

Permanent sovereignty of the Palestinian people in the Occupied Palestinian Territory including East Jerusalem, and of the Arab population in the occupied Syrian Golan over their natural resources [3]

The Committee resumed its consideration of the item.

Action on draft resolution A/C.2/63/L.5

The Committee was informed that the draft resolution contained no programme budget implications.

A statement was made by the observer for Palestine in which he announced, on behalf of the main sponsor (Egypt), that Pakistan had joined in sponsoring the draft resolution.

The Committee adopted the draft resolution, by a recorded vote of 139 to 6, with 4 abstentions.

Before the vote, a statement was made by the representative of the Syrian Arab Republic. After the vote, statements in explanation of vote were made by the representatives of Israel and France (on behalf of the European Union).

A statement was made by the observer for Palestine.

Subsequently, statements were made by the representatives of Belize, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Brazil, Finland, Guinea, Peru, Saudi Arabia, Senegal, Trinidad and Tobago and Zambia regarding their vote.

The Committee thus concluded its consideration of the item.

Macroeconomic policy questions [4]

The Committee resumed its consideration of the item.

(b) International financial system and development

Action on draft resolutions A/C.2/63/L.41 and A/C.2/63/L.9

The Committee was informed that draft resolution A/C.2/63/L.41 contained no programme budget implications.

The Committee adopted the draft resolution.

A statement was made by the representative of Argentina, in his capacity as facilitator of the draft resolution.

In light of the adoption of draft resolution A/C.2/63/L.41, draft resolution A/C.2/63/L.9 was withdrawn by its sponsors.

The Committee thus concluded its consideration of the sub-item.

(c) External debt and development: towards a durable solution to the debt problems of developing countries

Action on draft resolutions A/C.2/63/L.38 and A/C.2/63/L.7

The Committee was informed that draft resolution A/C.2/63/L.38 contained no programme budget implications.

The Committee adopted the draft resolution.

In light of the adoption of draft resolution A/C.2/63/L.38, draft resolution A/C.2/63/L.7 was withdrawn by its sponsors.

The Committee thus concluded its consideration of the sub-item.

Sustainable development [49]

The Committee resumed its consideration of the item.

Action on draft resolution A/C.2/63/L.2/Rev.1 and A/C.2/63/L.2/Rev.1/Add.1

The Committee was informed that the draft resolution contained no programme budget implications.

The representative of Ethiopia, as the main sponsor of the draft resolution, made a statement in which she announced that Turkey had joined in sponsoring the draft resolution.

Subsequently, Armenia, Chile, Gabon, Guyana, Iraq, Morocco, the Philippines and Swaziland also joined in sponsoring the draft resolution.

The Committee adopted the draft resolution.

Organization of work

A statement was made by the Chairperson.

Third Committee

42nd meeting

Promotion and protection of human rights: Human rights questions, including alternative approaches for improving the effective enjoyment of human rights and fundamental freedoms [64 (b)]*Action on draft resolution A/C.3/63/L.19/Rev.1*

The Committee continued its consideration of the draft resolution and was informed that it contained no programme budget implications.

The representative of Malaysia proposed an oral amendment to operative paragraphs 2 and 3 of the draft resolution.

The representative of Chile rejected the amendments proposed by the representative of Malaysia, whereupon the Committee proceeded to vote separately on each amendment.

Statements before the vote were made by the representatives of Singapore, China, Germany, New Zealand, Egypt and the Czech Republic.

The Committee rejected the proposed amendment to operative paragraph 2, by a recorded vote of 88 to 55, with 24 abstentions.

The Committee then rejected the proposed amendment to operative paragraph 3, by a recorded vote of 90 to 53, with 23 abstentions.

The representative of Barbados moved, under rule 129 of the rules of procedure, that the first preambular paragraph of the draft resolution be voted on separately.

The representative of Mexico, under rule 129 of the rules of procedure, raised an objection to the motion for division made by the representative of Barbados.

Statements in favour of the motion were made by the representatives of Antigua and Barbuda and Singapore and statements opposing the motion were made by the representatives of Monaco and Armenia.

The Committee voted on the motion, which was rejected, by a recorded vote of 88 to 53, with 24 abstentions.

After the vote, the representative of the United Kingdom made a statement.

The representative of Uruguay made a statement regarding the vote on the motion.

The representative of Singapore then moved, under rule 129, that operative paragraph of the draft resolution be voted on separately.

A procedural discussion followed, in which the representatives of Singapore, Barbados, Mexico, Chile, France and New Zealand made statements.

The Secretary of the Committee spoke on a point a clarification

The representative of Chile, under rule 129 of the rules of procedure, raised an objection to the motion for division made by the representative of Singapore.

Statements in favour of the motion were made by the representatives of the Sudan and Barbados and statements opposing the motion were made by the representatives of Monaco and Switzerland.

The Committee voted on the motion, which was rejected, by a recorded vote of 88 to 55, with 24 abstentions.

Subsequently, the representative of Slovakia made a statement regarding the vote on motion.

The Committee then proceeded to consider the draft resolution as a whole and heard statements by the representatives of Colombia, the Islamic Republic of Iran, Malaysia, the Bahamas, Egypt, Croatia and the Sudan.

The Committee adopted the draft resolution, by a recorded vote of 105 to 48, with 31 abstentions.

Statements before the vote were made by the representatives of Myanmar, Guyana, Barbados, Thailand, Yemen, Papua New Guinea, India, Nigeria, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines and the Syrian Arab Republic. After the vote, statements were made by the representatives of the United States, Morocco, Singapore, Lebanon, Egypt, Ghana, Japan, Bangladesh, Viet Nam, Bhutan, China, Saudi Arabia, Swaziland, Benin and Botswana.

The representative of Djibouti made a statement regarding the vote on the draft resolution.

43rd meeting

The summary of the 43rd meeting of the Third Committee will appear in the next issue of the *Journal* (No. 2008/229).

Fifth Committee

19th meeting

Administration of justice [1]

The Committee began its consideration of this agenda item.

The Under-Secretary-General for Management introduced the reports of the Secretary-General (A/63/314, A/62/782, A/62/748 and A/62/748/Corr.1)

The Assistant Secretary-General, United Nations Ombudsman, introduced the report of that office (A/63/283).

The Vice-Chairman of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions introduced the related reports of that Committee (A/62/7/Add.39 and A/63/545).

The Chairman of the Committee drew the attention of the Committee to a letter dated 18 July 2008 from the President of the Administrative Tribunal addressed to the

President of the General Assembly (A/63/253) and to two letters from the President of the General Assembly addressed to the Chairman of the Fifth Committee (A/C.5/62/27 and A/C.5/63/9).

The President of the Staff Union of the United Nations Secretariat made a statement.

The Committee began its general discussion of this item and heard statements by the representatives of Antigua and Barbuda (on behalf of the Group of 77 and China), France (on behalf of the European Union; the candidate countries of Croatia, Turkey and The former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia; the countries of the Stabilization and Association Process and potential candidates Albania, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Montenegro and Serbia; as well as Ukraine, the Republic of Moldova and Armenia, which aligned themselves with the statement), Australia (on behalf of Canada, New Zealand and Australia), Mexico (on behalf of the Rio Group), Switzerland (also on behalf of Liechtenstein), India, the United States, Argentina, Japan and the Russian Federation.

The Committee thus concluded its general discussion of this item.

The Chairman informed the Committee that informal consultations on this item would begin on that day, Thursday, 20 November, following the adjournment of the formal meeting, in Conference Room 3, under the chairmanship Mr. Klaus de Rijk (Netherlands).

Other matters

Statements were made by the representatives of Antigua and Barbuda (on behalf of the Group of 77 and China), Angola (on behalf of the African Group), Kenya, Brazil, Cuba, South Africa, Botswana, Nigeria and Senegal.

The Under-Secretary-General for Management and the Assistant Secretary-General, Executive Director Capital Master Plan, replied to questions raised.

The Secretary of the Committee made a statement.

The Chairman of the Committee made a concluding statement.

Signatures, Ratifications, etc.

[Multilateral Treaties Deposited with the Secretary-General]

Optional Protocol to the Convention against Torture and Other Cruel, Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment. New York, 18 December 2002

Ratification: France (11 November 2008)¹

¹Date of receipt of the relevant documents.

Convention on Cluster Munitions**Dublin, 30 May 2008****Opening for signature**

In accordance with its article 15, the Convention on Cluster Munitions will be open for signature in Oslo by all States on 3 December 2008 and thereafter at United Nations Headquarters in New York until its entry into force.

Certified true copies of the Convention, of which the Arabic, Chinese, English, French, Russian and Spanish texts are equally authentic, will be prepared and will be transmitted to all States as soon as possible.

The Secretary-General takes this opportunity to recall that, under established international practice, only Heads of State, Heads of Government or Ministers for Foreign Affairs are empowered by virtue of their functions, to sign a treaty on behalf of a State without having to produce full powers to that effect. Other representatives wishing to sign a treaty must be in possession of appropriate full powers, which expressly authorize signature of a specific treaty by a named representative issued and signed by one of these authorities. Full powers are distinct from credentials. Credentials alone are not adequate for the purpose of signing a treaty.

The Secretary-General would be obliged if States wishing to sign the Convention could notify, and provide copies of the required full powers in advance to the Treaty Section, Office of Legal Affairs, United Nations Headquarters, New York (tel. 1 (212) 963-5047; fax 1 (212) 963-3693; e-mail holbrook@un.org).

For more information on full powers and a model instrument of full powers, please refer to the *Treaty Handbook* on the United Nations Treaty Collection Web site, which can be accessed at <http://treaties.un.org>.

For general information on the signing conference, including registration, financial support, travel and visa arrangements, please consult the following Web site: www.osloccm.no.

General information**Chairmen of regional groups**

The following information regarding the chairmanship of the regional groups for the month of *November 2008* has been communicated to the Secretariat:

African States:

Mauritius

H.E. Mr. Somduth Soborun

Asian States:

Iran (Islamic Republic of)

H.E. Mr. Mohammad Khazae

Eastern European States:

Croatia

H.E. Mr. Neven Jurica

Latin American and Caribbean States:

Chile

H.E. Mr. Heraldo Muñoz

Western European and other States:

Iceland

H.E. Mr. Hjálmar Hannesson

Daily list of documents issued at Headquarters

With the exception of sales publications and public information material, hyperlinked official documents listed hereunder may be accessed through the Official Document System of the United Nations in the electronic version of the present Journal. The list contains documents issued by 2 p.m. on Thursday, 20 November 2008.

<i>Symbol</i>	<i>Main title</i>
General Assembly	Official Records
	Committee on the Exercise of the Inalienable Rights of the Palestinian People
	Special meeting to mark sixty years of dispossession of Palestine refugees
A/AC.183/SR.309	Meeting held on 20 June 2008, 10 a.m. [A C E F R S]
General Assembly	Documents
	Sixty-third session
A/63/346/Add.3	Item 118 — Programme budget for the biennium 2008-2009 — Estimates in respect of special political missions, good offices and other political initiatives authorized by the General Assembly and/or the Security Council — Thematic cluster III. United Nations offices, peacebuilding support offices, integrated offices and commissions — Report of the Secretary-General [A C E F R S]
A/63/346/Add.3/Corr.1	Item 118 — Programme budget for the biennium 2008-2009 — Estimates in respect of special political missions, good offices and other political initiatives authorized by the General Assembly and/or the Security Council — Thematic cluster III. United Nations offices, peacebuilding support offices, integrated offices and commissions — Report of the Secretary-General [R S (only)]
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Communications to the Editor

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